

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ABIDJA 03774 01 OF 02 060941Z

10

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 OIC-02 AGR-10 SP-02

AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04

OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00

USIA-15 XMB-04 OPIC-06 LAB-04 SIL-01 EA-10 NEA-09 L-02

PA-02 PRS-01 SAM-01 /156 W
----- 034927

R 051720Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3191

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMCONGEN GUAYAQUIL

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OR 2 ABIDJAN 3774

PASS USDA AGRICULTURE MARKETING SERVICE FROM USDEL

EO 11652:N/A

TAGS: ETRAD, EAGR, FAO

SUBJ: MEETING OF THE FAO INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP ON
BANANAS, SIXTH SESSION, ABIDJAN

1. SUMMARY. STATISTICS MEETING (VIII SESSION) UNEVENTFUL.
MOST EXPORTERS STRESSED INCREASED EXPORTS OVER NEXT YEAR
AND OVER LONGER TERM. TOTAL IMPORTER AND EXPORTER
PROJECTIONS FOR 1975 WITHIN 2 PER CENT OF EACH
OTHER. UPON ARRIVAL IMPORTERS WERE FACED WITH
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ABIDJA 03774 01 OF 02 060941Z

UNANIMOUS PRODUCER CALL FOR AN INTERNATIONAL BANANA

AGREEMENT. THE UNITED STATES WAS THE ONLY IMPORTER TO POINT OUT SPECIFICALLY ITS SERIOUS OBJECTIONS TO MARKET ORGANIZATION AND ITS DOUBTS ABOUT THE FEASIBILITY OF ANY INTERNATIONAL BANANA AGREEMENT. IMPORTERS, IN A COMMON PRESENTATION, AGREED TO THE SETTING UP OF A SMALL WORKING PARTY OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP WHICH WILL STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF SUCH AN APPROACH IN THE LIGHT OF OBJECTIVES OUTLINED IN THE REPORT OF THE SUB-GROUP OF EXPORTERS.

END SUMMARY.

2. DURING THEIR APRIL 21-25 MEETINGS THE SUB-GROUP OF EXPORTERS OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP ON BANANAS (IGB) ENDED ITS MEETINGS WITH A UNANIMOUS RECOMMENDATION FOR AN INTERNATIONAL BANANA AGREEMENT TO SOLVE PROBLEMS IN THE BANANA TRADE AS THEY ARE SEEN BY PRODUCERS. THIS CONCLUSION WAS REACHED IN SPITE OF FAO SECRETARIAT SKEPTICISM ABOUT THE FEASIBILITY OF SUCH AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT AS OUTLINED IN DOCUMENTS PREPARED FOR THE MEETING. EXPORTER UNANIMITY WAS REACHED AFTER STRENUOUS EFFORTS BY THE FAO SECRETARIAT, THE UPEB REPRESENTATIVE AND THE OAS OBSERVER. THE IVORY COAST DELEGATE ACTED AS PRODUCER SPOKESMAN.

3. IMPORTERS ENTERED THE IGB FACED WITH A PRODUCER PROPOSAL FOR A FORMAL INTERNATIONAL BANANA AGREEMENT. THE EC SPOKESMAN, OVERRIDING GERMAN AND UK OBJECTIONS, ASSOCIATED THE COMMUNITY WITH THE PRODUCER REQUEST FOR AN AGREEMENT. THE EC FULLY ENDORSED THE CONCEPT OF A WORKING PARTY AND EXPRESSED ITS WILLINGNESS TO FULLY COOPERATE.

4. THE USDEL, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS POSITION, EXPRESSED ITS SERIOUS DOUBTS AND SKEPTICISM ABOUT THE FEASIBILITY OF AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON BANANAS, STRESSING OUR DOUBTS CONCERNING ATTEMPTS AT MARKET ORGANIZATION. THE SUDDENNESS OF THE PRODUCER PROPOSAL FOR A FORMAL INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT WAS CLEARLY POINTED OUT, ESPECIALLY THE FACT THAT IMPORTERS WERE NOT PERMITTED TIME TO PREPARE FOR THE DISCUSSION. IN THE SPIRIT OF DIALOGUE AND OUR WILLINGNESS TO LISTEN AND EXCHANGE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 ABIDJA 03774 01 OF 02 060941Z

IDEAS THE USDEL ASSOCIATED ITSELF WITH THE OTHER IMPORTERS IN AGREEING TO ENTER INTO DISCUSSIONS, ANALYSIS AND DIALOGUE IN A WORKING PARTY. THE USDEL ALSO STRESSED THE POINT MADE BY OTHER DELEGATES THAT SUCH ACTION WOULD UNQUESTIONABLY TAKE MANY YEARS TO ACHIEVE, IF EVER.

5. THE UPEB AND ECUADORIAN DELEGATES (ECUADORIAN AMBAS-

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ABIDJA 03774 02 OF 02 061031Z

21

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-09 OIC-02

AGR-10 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-02 TRSE-00

SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-01

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 XMB-04 OPIC-06 LAB-04 SIL-01

L-02 PA-02 PRS-01 SAM-01 /156 W

----- 035481

R 051720Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3192
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
AMCONGEN GUAYAQUIL

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 ABIDJAN 3774

SADOR TO UNCTAD) MADE SOMEHAT LONG SPEECHES OUTLING
THEIR CONCEPTS OF WHAT THE WORKING PARTY SHOULD DO AND
WHAT AN AGREEMENT SHOULD CONTAIN.THE ECUADORIAN
STATEMENT IN PARTICULAR BROUGHT ON A CONFLICT WITH THE
IVORY COAST DELEGATE WITHIN THE IGB DRAFTING ROUP
AS EACH JOCKEYED FOR HIS POSITION ABOUT TREATMENT OF
MARKET ACCESS IN PREFERENTIAL MARKETS. BOTH ECUADORIAN
AND UPEB STATEMENTS WERE SUMMARIZED IN THE FINAL REPORT.

6. THE WORKING PARTY IS TO MADE UP OF JAPAN, THE
UNITED KINGDOM, GERMANY, ITALY, FRANCE, THE
PHILIPPINES, A UPEB CONTRY, ECUADOR, IVORY COAST,

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ABIDJA 03774 02 OF 02 061031Z

JAMAICA AND THE UNITED STATES.

7. IN GENERAL THE MEETING WAS CHARACTERIZED BY A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN IMPORTERS AND PRODUCERS BUT BELOW THE SURFACE BOILED A CONFLICT AMOUNT PRODUCERS THEMSELVES, MAINLY BETWEEN PREFERENTIAL AND NON-PREFERENTIAL SUPPLIERS. IMPORTERS AGREED TO A WORKING PARTY WITH BROAD AND POTENTIALLY MODIFIABLE TERMS OF REFERENCE. ALTHOUGH PRODUCERS WERE PLEASED WITH THE IMPORTER RESPONSE TO THE CALL FOR A WORKING PARTY, THEY STATED THEY WERE UNHAPPY AT THE LACK OF CLARITY, DEFINITION OR COMMITMENT ON THE PART OF IMPORTERS TOMOVE TOWARDS AN INTERNATIONAL BANANA AGREEMENT. PRODUCERS OFTER REPEATED POINT THAT THEY WERE NOT INTERESTED IN UNILATERAL EXPORTER ACTIONS, AND THEREFORE, THEY LOOKED TO AN INTERNATIONAL BANANA AGREEMENT AS THE BEST SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS THEY SEE IN THE BANANA TRADE.

8. NO DATE WAS SET FOR THE FIRST MEETING OF THE WORKING PARTY. MANY IMPORTERS MENTIONED NUMEROUS COMMITMENTS THIS YEAR, SUCH AS RENEGOTIATION OF THE COCOA THE FOFFEE AGREEMENTS AND OTHER ITEMS. THE NEXT MEETING OF THE IGB WILL BE DETERMINED AFTER RECOMMENDATIONS ARE RECEIVED FROM THE WORKING PARTY OF THE IGB.
FERRITER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BANANAS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, MEETING PROCEEDINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ABIDJA03774
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750158-0176
From: ABIDJAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750579/aaaacuez.tel
Line Count: 202
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 JUL 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <04 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEETING OF THE FAO INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP ON BANANAS, SIXTH SESSION, ABIDJAN
TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, FAO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006